**WINTER 2024 WINTER 2024** 

#### WHITLEY ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

We currently have some vacant plots. If you're interested, please contact the secretary whitleyallotment@outlook.com

### HELPING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Sadly, not everyone appreciates our lovely rural setting, public spaces & footpaths. If you see any antisocial activity, instances of flytipping or dog mess etc. you can report it to NYCC via their website www.northyorks.gov.uk.

### **HEATING FUEL CO-OPERATIVE**

The Oil Cooperative organises a group order for anyone in Whitley and the surrounding communities every 2 months. Email whitlevoilcooperative@btinternet.com or ring 01977 662917 for more information. And if you have LPG, often the best deals are by being part of a group on your estate or in the village.

#### **OVER 80'S RESIDENTS**

The Parish Council continues the long standing tradition of providing a Christmas hamper for all Whitley residents who have reached this age. The Over 80's list is updated by Cllr. Kath Walton and we are keen that all eligible residents are included.

Contact Kath on 01977 662720 or KTWalton.wpc@outlook.com

#### **CHURCH SERVICES**

Our two local churches are St Edmunds in Kellington and Eggborough Methodist who both hold regular services.

mothersharonbrown@gmail.com eggmethodist@gmail.com

#### SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow our Facebook or Nextdoor page WhitleyCommunity. For local news from the PC, residents, and other community updates and information join our WhitleyCommunityGroup.

WhitleyNeighbourhoodWatch is also one to follow about incidents in our area.

# **Upcoming Council Meetings**

2024 March 19th April 16th May 21st

These are public meetings, you are most welcome to attend

Parish Council Chair: Kath Walton KTWalton.wpc@outlook.com 01977 662720 Parish Council Clerk: John Hunter clerk4whitleypc@gmail.com 07764 404885

**Our NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCILLOR is John McCartney** 01977 662558 cllr.john.mccartney@northyorks.gov.uk



2024



www.whitleycommunity.co.uk





Whitley Community

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## PARISH PRECEPT 2024/25

At our November meeting your Parish Council took the difficult decision to increase the precept. We thought we should explain this ahead of next years Council Tax bills.

The precept is a tax that Parish Councils charge their local residents to meet their budget requirements. Parish Councils do not receive any direct funding from central or local government and rely on their precept, plus any other income they can generate, such as rent from the allotments and interest on bank accounts. The Parish Council precept is part of the Council Tax and is collected from local residents via their annual Council Tax payments.

The precept for 2024/25 will increase from £10,500 to £12,500.

The implication for Whitley residents is illustrated by the standard reference to a band D equivalent property, where the increased cost in the annual Council Tax bill will go up by £5.10 a year from £25.97 to £31.07, an increase of just under 20%.

The following factors have contributed to the need for the increase:

A general increase across almost all our general costs.

Core services such as our park maintenance have increased as the park becomes more mature, in particular tree growth.

In addition, the Councils' reserves, which have in previous years been used to support core services, have reduced to a level where this is no longer possible to ensure the Council maintains an adequate contingency to cover unforeseen expenditure.

The Parish Council is responsible for, or supports, a number of services and initiatives including:

- Recreation area and play equipment
- Daffodil Park and other open spaces
- Grass & verge cutting
- Nature reserve
- Insurance & clerk salary
- Over 80's Christmas parcels
- General repairs and maintenance
- Website & school hall fees

The Parish Council went through a robust budget setting process at the meeting in November 2023 ahead of the forthcoming financial year and all of the above was noted as part of the decision to increase the precept.

Whilst we understand that this will be a cause of frustration to some residents, we do ask for your continued to support as we strive to manage aspects of our village. The Parish Council will continue to manage their budget carefully and ensure that all services received and provided are as cost effective and efficient as possible.

If you have any suggestions or ideas please contact us via the clerk.

## WELCOMING NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS

We are delighted to welcome three new councillors to the Parish Council this year.

Mo Thompson, Charlotte Paley and Kerry Barber, all of whom have lived in the village for many years. Together they bring a range of new experiences and expertise which will help enhance the potential of the Parish Council over the coming years. Your existing councillors are Kathleen Walton, John White, Sarah Cole and Simon Humphrey.

If you have any questions about the Parish Council have a look at the website, contact us, or pop along to one of the Parish Council meetings.

The Parish Council meets every month at the school and every meeting is open to the public. Details of the meetings are posted on all the noticeboards and are available on the village website.

# CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

As is our tradition we distributed hampers to the residents in the village who are over 80, this year about 20 took part. We would like to thank Tunstall Healthcare and Ringtons Tea for both their donations and help with distribution, as well as Kathleen Walton who has organised this for many years, thank you everyone.

